

Board of Selectmen  
Budget Meeting  
Minutes  
September 27, 2021  
*(Approved – October 18, 2021)*

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Chairman V. MacDonald convened the meeting at 6:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following staff members were present:

Virgil MacDonald, Chairman  
Paul LaRochelle, Vice-Chairman  
Reuben Wentworth, Selectman  
Brock Mitchell, Selectman  
Bob Holt, Selectman  
Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator  
Laura Parker, Finance Manager

**Agenda Approval**

V. MacDonald stated that he would like to add Budgets under Old Business. B. Holt stated that he would like to add Bay Hill Road under Other Business. P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the agenda and B. Mitchell seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Department Budget Presentations**

Assessing Department (4193)

**Assessing Department Budget:** Robb Jutton, Assessor, presented the proposed 2022 budget. Various lines were questioned. B. Holt asked about the vehicle maintenance line. R. Wentworth stated that it is in the IT budget as well. V. MacDonald asked if it could be brought down to \$500.00.

B. Holt made a motion to change the figure Line Item 207 Vehicle Maintenance from \$1,000.00 to \$500.00 and V. MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Assessing Department Budget at \$147,327.00 and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Public Hearing – ARPA Funds**

V. MacDonald opened the Public Hearing at 6:13 pm.

L. Dionne stated that this Public Hearing is required for the Town to accept the first 50% of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds. In order for it to be used it needs to be accepted by the Board. L. Parker stated that the Town is going to receive in full \$557,786.00. The first portion that we have received is \$278,893.22. The second portion should be received between the Spring and Summer of 2022. She stated what the funds can be used for. She has been keeping a list of projects that could be paid for with these funds. V. MacDonald asked to have the list of projects put on a future agenda for motions.

## Public Comment

None

V. MacDonald closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 pm

P. LaRochelle made a motion to accept the American Rescue Plan Act Funds in the amount of \$278,893.22 and B. Holt seconded with all in favor of the motion.

### Highway Department (4312)

**Highway Department Budget:** Scott Kinmond, Public Works Director presented the proposed 2022 budget. R. Wentworth asked why a few of the lines were brought down to \$1. S. Kinmond stated that those items were moved into other lines. Several other lines were discussed. P. LaRochelle asked why the salt line has increased so much. S. Kinmond explained that is because of the new salt treatment and liquid deicer. R. Wentworth stated the he would like some more time to study it before approving it. V. MacDonald agrees with him. He stated that they will hold off until the next meeting.

### Conservation Commission (4612)

**Conservation Commission:** G. Young, Chairman presented the proposed 2022 budget. Several lines were discussed.

V. MacDonald made a motion to approve the Conservation Commission budget for \$23,341.00 and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. Other Business as deemed necessary
  - Alton Shore Road Properties

L. Dionne explained that two of the properties that will be going to auction are separate lots but the owner used them as one lot. The properties are 185 Alton Shores Road and right beside it an unnumbered parcel. The Code Enforcement Officer went out to the properties and came back to inform her that the two lots are side by side and both 100' by 100' lots. There was a house on the 185 Alton Shores Road lot that burned down in 2012. The well for that property is on the abutting lot. The driveway access and the driveway to that property is on the other lot. There is a septic but unknown as to exactly where and which lot. The previous owner owned both lots and used it as one lot. Because of the well and driveway it is called Merger by Conduct. It is in the Assessing field and State law that the Planning Board may merge the two lots together as one lot because it was used that way. V. MacDonald asked why can't we as a Town sell them as two lots one with a well and an empty lot. L. Dionne stated that the way the Code Enforcement Officer explained it there are now certain size requirements on lots and these fall underneath that. She got a consensus from the Board of Selectmen members she was able to speak to, to notify the auctioneer that both parcels will be sold as one package with an understanding to whoever wishes to bid on these parcels that later this fall the Planning Board would be merging them together as one parcel. They are allowed to do under law. That is being scheduled. She just wanted to bring it forward to the entire Board. V. MacDonald stated that he disagrees with it. He thinks it should be sold as two separate lots one with a well and one without. B. Holt asked if they can legally sell them as two separate lots. V. MacDonald stated that they can. L. Dionne stated that she is not sure. She is wondering if they could be sold as unbuildable. V. MacDonald stated that they are a buildable lot. They are already a sub-division lots and are legal to build on. L. Dionne is just asking for confirmation from the Board that these two will be sold together as one package with a clear understanding as to whoever bids on them that will become one lot at some point in the near future. R. Wentworth stated that the Board of Selectmen still need to vote on

this and those lots should not be sold until they are already merged together. We should not be telling whoever buys them they will be merged after the auction. R. Wentworth stated that these two lots should be pulled from the auction. It shouldn't be done after the auction. L. Dionne stated that there are no records for the septic. His recommendation is pull those off the auction. B. Holt stated that technically two different people could buy the lots. R. Wentworth stated that in all business ethics that is unethical. You knowingly are going to sell two lots with issues. R. Wentworth stated that he has no problem merging lots he just feels it should be done before the auction. V. MacDonald stated that he agrees if they are going to merge them they should be done before hand

### Budgets

V. MacDonald asked why there were no Budgets scheduled for September 29. It is poor planning. L. Dionne explained that there was only one person scheduled.

- Bay Hill Road

B. Holt asked what the outcome of the Weight Limit sign last week. He has a concern about the sign that was put in. The verbiage is 6 Ton Weight Limit. This is a permanent sign. He has already had a personal issue with it. He had a delivery of a washing machine. He received a phone call that they were parked on Route 28. They stated that they won't come down the road because of the sign. He questioned the permitting procedure. Several different options were discussed. L. Dionne stated that another Public Hearing needs to be scheduled. She will have the Police Chief and the Public Works Director come to another meeting.

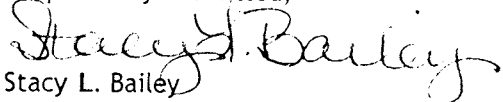
L. Dionne asked the Board what the final decision is for the two Alton Shore Road properties.

R. Wentworth made a motion to sell the two lots on Alton Shores Road as long as they are merged before the auction and B. Holt seconded. The vote was called with 4 affirmative and 1 nay (VM).

### 2. Adjournment

R. Wentworth made a motion to adjourn at 7:18 PM and B. Holt seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy L. Bailey  
Recording Secretary